the best interest of the company and also safeguard the interest of the FI concerned.

Smuggling of Heroin

5263. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether five persons die everyday in India because of drug addiction and more heroin is consumed in this country than in the USA;

(b) whether India has also changed from a transit route for drugs meant for the West to a major illegal drug producing and drug consuming country during the last three years;

(c) whether the drug trafficking has also led to a link up of smugglers and terrorists; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures being taken by Government keeping in view this alarming scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) No official communication from any State Government or Health Treatment Agency has been received by Ministry of Health regarding deaths due to consumption of drugs. No definite information about the comparative use of heroin in India and USA is available.

(b) India continues to be a transit country. However, some illegal manufacturing of drugs does take place inspite of strict law enforcement efforts.

Information about addicts registered and addicts detoxified at de-addiction centres is as follows:—

Year	Addicts Registered	Addicts Detoxified
1989-90	1,31,360	38,903
1990-91	2,26,935	56,649
1991-92	2,53,212	71,225
1992-93	2,70,173	85,115
1993-94	2,90,628	1,01,007

(c) The Government is aware that in some cases drug trafficking has led to a link up of smugglers and terrorists.

(d) Instructions have been issued to all the enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in NDPS Act. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. Vehicles and communication equipments have been provided. A part of Indo-Pak border has been fenced. BSF and Coast Guards, who are deployed on land and coastal borders have been vested with the powers under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs on the border in addition to the Central and State Government enforcement agencies empowered under the NDPS Act.

Working of Indian Banks in Foreign Countries

5264. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether branches of commercial banks of some foreign countries are functioning in the country;

(b) if so, the names of such banks with branches, location-wise;

(c) whether branches of Indian commercial banks are also functioning in some foreign countries;

(d) if so, the names of such banks with branches, location-wise;

(e) whether it is a fact that no branch of Bank of Ceylon, Sri Lanka's National Bank, has been set up in the country although four Indian banks are working in Colombo;

(f) whether Government propose to take some action in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.